



MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
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**MINUTES
of the
GOVERNING BOARD
of the
MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

August 4, 2004, 3:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order.

The special meeting of the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairperson Michael Berger, at 3:00 p.m. on August 4, 2004 at the Bel Air Presbyterian Church, 16221 Mullholland Drive, California.

II. Roll Call.

The roll was called and the following members were present: Ed Hayduk, Jerome C. Daniel, George Lange, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chair. Quorum present.

Staff present: Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Officer; Reva Feldman, Deputy Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Paul Edelman, Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Walt Young, Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations; Tracy Dockery, Staff Services Manager and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

III. Public testimony on all agenda items and public comment on matters not on the agenda.

The following persons addressed the Authority:

Mr. Philip J. Hess, representing Save Chatsworth, Inc., on items VII and VIII.

Mr. Mark Watters, representing Twin Lakes Property Owners Association, on items VII and VIII.

Ms. Margot Feuer, member of the public, on items V and VI.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Feuer.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

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Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Ms. Patricia Hearst, member of public, on items V and VI.

Comments were made by the Chair.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Hearst.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Hearst.

Comments were made by the Chair.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Hearst.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Ms. Jeanie Plumb, member of public, on items VII and VIII.

Mr. Marty Woll, representing the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council, on item VII.

Mr. Kenneth Seager, representing Kenneth Seeger, on items VII and VIII.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Mr. Seeger and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

IV. Reports from Staff.

The Authority received a verbal report from the Chief Ranger and Chief of Operations.

The Authority received a verbal report from the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

The Authority received a verbal report by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Deputy Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chair.

V. Consideration of resolution confirming amended assessments and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District No. 2, Los Angeles.

The Chief Deputy Executive Officer presented the staff report on this item.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by Gerard Van Stein, President of Shilts Consultants, Inc.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by Mr. Van Stein, the Chief Deputy Executive Officer and the Chief Staff Counsel.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-105 was unanimously adopted.

VI. Consideration of resolution adopting Engineer's Report, confirming the annual levy of maintenance assessment for fiscal year 2004-2005, and directing related actions for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District No. 2, Los Angeles.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-106 was unanimously adopted.

VII. Consideration of resolution adopting Mitigated Negative Declaration for Deerlake Highlands Addition Access Easement project, Devil Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

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Questions were propounded by Messrs. Daniel and Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

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Questions were propounded Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by the Chair and Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by Mr. Philip J. Hess, Save Chatsworth, Inc.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by Mr. Hess and the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning and Mr. Hess.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Marty Woll, Chatsworth Neighborhood Council.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by the Chief Staff Counsel.

Comments were made by Mr. Hess.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. Jeanie Plumb, member of the public.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Woll.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel; Mr. Daniel; and Ms. Tamara Stein. Presidio Chatsworth Partners.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-107 was unanimously adopted.

VIII. Consideration of resolution adopting Mitigated Negative Declaration for Deerlake Highlands APN 2821-019-007 Access Easement project, Devil Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning and the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Daniel.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning; Ms. Plumb; Mr. Hess, and the Chief Staff Counsel.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel; Mr. Hess, and the Chair.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Deputy Director for Natural Resources and Planning.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-108 was unanimously adopted.

Upon direction of the Governing Board, the Chair was delegated authority to finalize documentation setting forth and implementing the easements referenced in items VII and VIII. The Chair was also delegated authority to execute such documentation and execute a settlement agreement with Linda Corbridge, such authority to be exercised upon consultation of a committee composed of the Chair, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority staff, Mr. Seeger, and a representative of the nearby community.

IX. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of a sewer line easement to the City of Los Angeles across the Trebek Donation parcel between Nichols Canyon Road and Astral Drive in exchange for park improvements and abandonment of an existing easement, Nichols Canyon, Los Angeles.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-109 was unanimously adopted.

X. Consideration of resolution accepting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority warrant disbursements for May 2004.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-110 was unanimously adopted.

XI. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into an agreement with the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation to provide personnel services associated with the responsibilities of the Ballona Creek Watershed Coordinator.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-111 was unanimously adopted.

XII. Consideration of resolution adopting the preliminary MRCA 2004-2005 Workprogram.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made by the Deputy Director of Natural Resources and Planning and the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-112 was unanimously adopted.

XIII. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement of approximately 0.3304 acre from Shea Homes Limited Partnership for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit No. 199915679-JPL for the Big Sky Ranch Project, Sand Canyon drainage, Simi Valley.

On motion of Mr. Hayduk, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-113 was unanimously adopted.

XIV. Consideration of resolution authorizing return of funds to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy remaining from grant SMM-03159, La Tuna Canyon-Hillview, Verdugo Mountains.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Executive Officer.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-114 was unanimously adopted.

XV. Consideration of resolution authorizing return of additional interest balance remaining from grant funds returned to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-115 was unanimously adopted.

XVI. Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a sixty acre open space dedication in San Francisquito Canyon (portions of APNs 3244-30-26, 3324-30-28 and 3244-25-31), and authorizing acceptance of a maintenance endowment fund for said parcel, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-116 was unanimously adopted.

XVII. Statements, questions, and directions to staff pursuant to Section 54954.2 of the Government Code.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Hayduk.

Comments were made the Chief Staff Counsel.

XVIII. Closed Session.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Government Code §§ 54956.8 and 54956.9. Confidential memoranda related to these items may be considered during such closed session discussions. Conference with legal counsel. Number of cases: 2. (1) *City of Malibu v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority* and *Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy*; and (2) *Andrew Sabol v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority et al CIV 226281 (Ventura County)*.

No closed session was held.

XIX. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on August 4, 2004 at 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP
Executive Officer

Michael Berger
Chair